

Carol Schwartz
Councilmember Carol Schwartz

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare, on an emergency basis, the sense of the Council to request the Washington Redskins change the team's name before the beginning of the 2002-2003 football season.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Washington National Football League Franchise Name Change Emergency Resolution of 2001".

Sec.2. The Council finds that:

(1) The term "Redskins" was derived during a time in our nation when a bounty was offered on Indians, and those killed by the bounty hunters were scalped as proof of the slaughter so that bounty money could be collected.

(2) Bounty hunters began referring to the scalps of the dead Indians as "redskins," much like pelts from beaver were referred to as "beaverskins" and the pelts from deer were referred to as "deerskins".

(3) The term "Redskins" is viewed by many sensitive and progressive-minded individuals as a demeaning and dehumanizing racist insult that embodies a history of degradation and slaughter.

(4) The team name "Redskins" is offensive and hurtful to many Native Americans who are citizens of this nation and to all people who reject racial stereotypes and bigotry as socially

1 and morally unacceptable.

2 (5) The Council and the citizens of the Washington, D.C., are proud of their National
3 Football League franchise and desires a team name that instills pride as well.

4 (6) While changing the name of city's National Football League team may not be a
5 simple task, it is the right thing to do.

6 Sec. 3. It is the sense of the Council that the Washington Redskins' owners change the
7 team's name prior to the 2002-2003 football season.

8 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.